

Edition:Edina

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The City of Edina



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Legend:

- Infrastructure
- Commercial and Mixed-Use Redevelopment
- Workforce
- Communication and Engagement
- Community Vision
- Aviation Noise

Speak Up, Edina!

The City's next online discussion has been set up at www.SpeakUpEdina.org. The discussion, which focuses on the future of community events, is available until Sept. 30.

Two successful art fairs are held in Edina each summer and a popular July 4 parade is held. Edina does not currently have a community festival. In the discussion, the City will ask whether or not residents think Edina should hold an annual community festival, and, if so, what kind of festival it should be and what would need to be included for residents to attend.

In August, the City gathered feedback on community gardens. Questions posed ranged from whether the City should add community gardens, where more could be added and whether or not they currently use or would use a community garden. Feedback from the discussion will be presented to the City Council Sept. 16.

To weigh in on this month's discussion, visit www.SpeakUpEdina.org.

Utility Bill Policy Revised for Residential Rental Properties

To save staff time, alleviate confusion among residential rental property owners and tenants and follow best practices in the industry, the City of Edina will begin to transfer all City utility accounts from names of tenants to the property owners who rent their property.

"We'd like to keep property owners aware of what's going on with their utility accounts, because in the long run, they are responsible for them," said Utility Billing Clerk Dona Fowler, who handles billing for the City's utility accounts, including water, sewer, storm drainage and recycling services.

Presently, the City allows property owners to transfer their City utility accounts into the name of their tenants, with a duplicate copy of the bill and/or notices going to the owner. Going forward, these accounts will be maintained in the name of the residential property owner. The City will still accommodate landlords by sending a duplicate bill to the tenant, but the owner will receive and is expected to be responsible for seeing that the original bill is paid.

If the owner prefers not to receive a paper bill, they can register at EdinaMN.gov/Finance to receive eBills. Those who register for online utility accounts are able to keep track of their transactions and consumption, as well as compare their own usage to other homes in Edina.

"This change will save not only staff's time in the Finance Department, but also in Public Works, where they have had to send out a meter reader every time there is a new tenant," said Utility Billing Supervisor Lori Lohmann.

Currently, accounts are being transferred into the property owner's name as tenants move out. Beginning this month, all remaining accounts will be transferred into the owners' names.

The City will continue its past practice of certifying unpaid balances to the owners' property taxes each November.

For more information, or to update your billing information, contact Utility Billing at 952-826-0373 or UtilBilling@EdinaMN.gov.

Nature to be the Focus of Fred Richards Park

The vision for the new park on the site of Fred Richards Executive Golf Course is still being developed, but preliminary concepts emphasize nature and the environment.

Fred Richards Executive Golf Course, 7640 Parklawn Ave., will close at the end of the season. The City plans to repurpose the land as a community park. The visioning process for the Fred Richards Park began in April, and, with the help of Schoenbauer Consulting and public input, the Park Board has identified several themes for it.

Schoenbauer Consulting is a Minneapolis-based firm that has experience handling parks and recreation transitions. They have been working with the City to develop a variety of park concepts that will provide a unique park experience focusing on getting children and families outdoors and serving the needs of the entire community.

Parks & Recreation Director Ann Kattreh explained that the themes being explored for different areas of the park include regional trails and areas for field games, community activities and passive use.

"I think that this is going to provide a really wonderful experience for the users of the Nine Mile Creek (Regional) Trail. It's going to be a beautiful natural environment in conjunction with a repurposed clubhouse and field space that will meet the needs of Edina residents," said Kattreh. "We want to emphasize the natural environment because it's such a beautiful environment and home to so many different species of birds and animals."

The City hopes to use the diverse and unique urban wildlife environment as an educational and programming opportunity. In addition, the park will allow for more year-round use by park patrons and program participants and the area around the clubhouse will be expanded and improved.

"I think the thing that is appealing here is the uniqueness of this opportunity [to have a 42-acre park] within a developed city," said Schoenbauer Consulting CEO Jeff Schoenbauer. "[There is] this collective desire between the Park Board, City Council and the residents to do something that is a little more fun."

Kattreh and Schoenbauer both emphasize their desire to have continued public input during the visioning process. An open house will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 23 at the Public Works & Park Maintenance Facility at 7450 Metro Blvd. The public is invited to attend and share feedback and ideas. After input is received, the Park Board will review the plan on Monday, Oct. 6. The Edina City Council is set to review it on Tuesday, Oct. 21.

"The next step [would then] be to select a consultant to complete a comprehensive master plan with bid documents. We'll ask them to take our visioning process to the next step of a detailed master plan," explained Kattreh. "There will be a lot of opportunity for public input as we go through that process as well."

For more information, contact Kattreh at 952-826-0430 or AKattreh@EdinaMN.gov.

Host a Vision Edina Workshop



As Edina continues to grow and change, "Vision Edina" – the City's future visioning plan – is also moving forward.

In early September, the City will hold a two-evening "think tank" session with selected residents and stakeholders to identify four possible scenarios for the future of the community. According to Future IQ Partners CEO David Beurle, this is just the beginning of the visioning process.

"Our goal is to engage a wide breadth of residents to examine these plausible futures and their potential impact moving forward," he explained.

Following the September session, the City and Future IQ Partners will take Vision Edina Community Workshops "on the road," as Assistant City Manager Karen Kurt calls it, to meet with as many residents as possible. The City is actively seeking groups who might be interested in hosting a workshop during the months of October or November.

"If there are 10 or more residents who are willing to come together for the workshop or share part of their meeting time, we will find a facilitator," said Kurt. Potential host groups could include churches, clubs, service organizations, athletic associations and neighborhood associations. The workshop is designed

for 90 minutes, but can be done in as little as 30 minutes to accommodate a tight schedule.

"The process is designed to be highly interactive. It won't be death by PowerPoint," noted Beurle.

The data gathered during the workshops will be analyzed and used in the development of the visioning document.

In addition to the hosted meetings, two public meetings will be held in early November. Residents can also look forward to a vigorous online discussion at www.SpeakUpEdina.org.

"Our goal is to stimulate conversation, even if it feels uncomfortable at times. Edina is a community capable of a truly unique and inspiring vision," Kurt said. "The more people we can get engaged in the discussion, the more likely we are to reach that goal."

"We know that Edina residents really value their community and have a deep attachment to it," said Mayor Jim Hovland. "The question is 'how can we make our community even better for the next generation?'"

If you are interested in hosting a meeting to discuss the project, contact Executive Assistant Heather Branigin, 952-826-0403 or HBRanigin@EdinaMN.gov. For more information about the Vision Edina project, contact Kurt, 952-826-0415 or KKurt@EdinaMN.gov. To stay up to date on the project, sign up to receive "City Extra" emails at www.EdinaMN.gov/CityExtra.

Police 'Focus In' on Distracted Driving



As a part of the 2014 "Focus In" campaign, Edina patrol officers will focus efforts on distracted driving during the month of September.

"Drivers often get caught up with distractions inside their vehicles," said Sgt. Tim Olson, who oversees the "Focus In" campaign.

"Whether it's other people, technology or simply daydreaming, these distractions pose a danger."

Every driver is responsible for remaining aware of the potential hazards that exist on the roadways and for using care while operating their vehicle.

"This means no reading a paper or texts, putting on makeup or picking what song you want to listen to on your phone," said Olson. "These are common distractions which can threaten the safety of you and other drivers."

Education will include a warning to those who violate the statutes or codes. In extenuating circumstances, a citation may be issued.

Each month, patrol officers focus police efforts on a specific statutory violation in order to educate the public and gain compliance. The violations the Police Department "Focus In" on have seasonal relevance, affect the quality of life in Edina or pose safety risks to residents. All statutes are enforced year-round, but additional attention is paid to the focus of the month.

This year, Police have already focused on obstructed vision, failure to signal, unsafe equipment, failure to display headlights, bike safety and pedestrian safety and child and seatbelt safety. For the following months, police will "Focus In" on speed in school zones, night and snow parking, and the "move over" law.

For more information, contact the Edina Police Department at 952-826-1610.

Upcoming Events

- Monday, Sept. 1**
Labor Day – Most City offices closed

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2
Community Health Commission Meeting, Edina City Hall

7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2
City Council Meeting, Edina City Hall

7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9
Park Board Meeting, Edina City Hall
- 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9**
Heritage Preservation Board Meeting, Edina City Hall

7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10
Planning Commission Meeting, Edina City Hall

7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16
City Council Meeting, Edina City Hall

6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18
Transportation Commission Meeting, Edina City Hall
- 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 22**
School Board Meeting, Edina Community Center

7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23
Human Right & Relations Commission Meeting, Edina City Hall

7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23
Fred Richards Park Open House, Public Works & Park Maintenance Facility

Development Tracker

In this development tracker, the City of Edina includes commercial and multi-family reconstruction projects or new constructions that have been completed in the last 12 months, are currently under construction, have filed a formal application to the City, have been approved or have presented a non-binding sketch plan to either the Planning Commission or the City Council. For more information, visit www.EdinaMN.gov/Planning or contact the Community Development Department Planning Division at 952-826-0369.

- 1

Business/Project: Grandview/Former Public Works

Location: 5146 Eden Ave.

Developer: Unknown

Status: In Progress

The City of Edina is in the process of selecting a development partner to prepare development scenarios for a mixed-use property envisioned to host complementary public/private uses that follow the guiding principles set for the area.
- 2

Business/Project: Pentagon Park

Location: 4901, 4815, 4820, 4600, 4660, 4510, 4530, 4550 W. 77th St. and 7600 Parklawn Ave.

Developer: Planned

Status: Pending Final Approvals

The developer plans to redevelop the 43-acre site in southeast Edina. The plan includes 1.4 million square feet of office space, 40,000 square feet of retail space and a 400-room hotel.
- 3

Business/Project: Braemar Golf Dome

Location: 7420 Braemar Blvd.

Developer: City of Edina

Status: Complete

This project is complete. Following a fire that damaged the old golf dome beyond repair, a new dome was constructed and includes a state-of-the-art fire suppression system, a detached clubhouse and 46 tee areas on two levels.
- 4

Business/Project: Sports Dome

Location: 7501 Ikola Way

Developer: City of Edina

Status: In Progress

The project includes a sports dome, outdoor refrigerated ice rink and upgrades to Pamela Park.
- 5

Business/Project: Grandview Townhomes

Location: 5109-5125 W. 49th St.

Developer: Hunt Associates

Status: On hold

The developer plans to raze the existing buildings and construct a new, 17-unit attached housing development on the 1.43-acre site.
- 6

Business/Project: 50th & France Ramps

Location: 50th & France

Developer: City of Edina

Status: In Progress

The parking ramps at 50th & France are being improved this summer and next. The improvements include updates to the ramps, wayfinding signage, incorporation of paint and public art and the addition of an elevator in the south ramp.
- 7

Business/Project: Starbucks

Location: 7501 France Ave. S.

Developer: Bruce Carlson/Starbucks

Status: Complete

This project is complete. The site includes a new 1,750-square-foot Starbucks coffee shop with a drive-thru.
- 8

Business/Project: 71 France/Byerly's Phase 1

Location: 7171 France Ave. S.

Developer: Lund Food Holdings

Status: In progress

Construction is currently on-going for a new 47,000-square-foot Byerly's store. The new store is expected to open in the fall of 2014. A six- or seven-story, 109-unit apartment building with 10,450 square feet of retail and two levels of underground parking are also planned.
- 8

Business/Project: 71 France Phase 2

Location: 7171 France Ave. S.

Developer: Lund Food Holdings

Status: Planned

Construction on Phase 2 will begin after the completion of Phase 1. This phase includes a six- or seven-story, 77-unit apartment building with 10,711 square feet of retail, and a second six story, 48-unit apartment building with 11,162 square feet of retail space. Both buildings include two levels of underground parking.
- 9

Business/Project: Think Bank

Location: 3655 Hazelton Road

Developer: HTG Architects

Status: In progress

Construction is underway. The developer has razed the existing structure and plans to build a 8,441-square-foot, two-story bank with a drive-thru, community meeting/training room, employee lounge and a rooftop patio.
- 10

Business/Project: Fairview Southdale Hospital

Location: 6401 France Ave. S.

Developer: Brian Lubben, Walker & Associates/ Fairview Southdale Hospital

Status: In progress

Construction is currently underway for a 89,000-square-foot emergency department expansion.

